

REMARKS:

Claims 1, 2, 4-11, 13, 16, 18, 19, 24, 27, 28, 30-37, 39, 43, 45, 46, 51 and 104-107 are presented for examination, with claims 1, 13, 24, 27, 39, 51, 104 and 106 having been amended hereby and claims 3, 12, 14, 15, 17, 20-23, 25, 26, 29, 38, 40-42, 44, 47-50, 52-103 and 108-111 having been withdrawn hereby, without prejudice or disclaimer.

In the September 27, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner indicated that restriction to one of so-called Invention I (Claims 1-53 and 104-107, drawn to a composition and method of making the composition, classified in class 424, subclass 93.7), Invention II (Claims 54-101, 108 and 109, drawn to a method of treating bone defect, classified in class 424, subclass 486) and Invention III (Claims 102, 103, 110 and 111, drawn to a method of growing bone in a patient, classified in class 424, subclass 93.7), would be required.

In response, applicants hereby elect so-called Invention I (Claims 1-53 and 104-107).

Further, in the September 27, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner indicated that restriction to a single disclosed composition discussed by the Examiner at page 3 of the September 27, 2006 Office Action would be required.

In response, applicants hereby elect the composition recited in currently pending claims 1, 2, 4-11, 13, 16, 18, 19, 24, 27, 28, 30-37, 39, 43, 45, 46, 51, and 104-107.

Of note, applicants specifically reserve the right to add generic claim(s) during the prosecution of the application. In addition, applicants specifically reserve the right to file divisional application(s) directed to any non-elected invention/species.

Finally, it is noted that an Information Disclosure Statement is submitted concurrently herewith. This Information Disclosure Statement lists a number of patents/applications including subject matter directed to a carrier of the type currently claimed.

Early and favorable consideration on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: March 26, 2007

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